

NEWS

Miss. health experts debunk face mask myths swirling on social media





AUTHOR

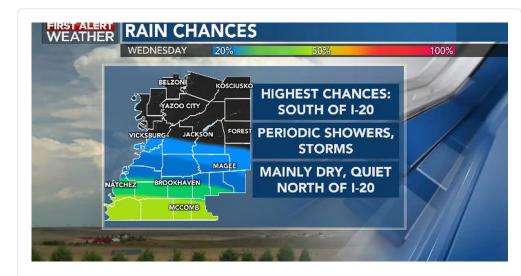
Ƴ F ⊠

C.J. LeMaster Chief Investigative Reporter Jackson, MS



C.J. LeMaster is WLBT's Chief Investigative Reporter.

RECENT CONTENT



Debunking mask myths



By C.J. LeMaster | May 19, 2020 at 10:41 PM CDT - Updated May 20 at 7:57 AM

JACKSON, Miss. (WLBT) - Myths regarding face masks and whether they protect against the spread of coronavirus keep popping up on social media -- with some implying the public is more likely to get COVID-19 with a mask than without.

In an effort to share facts over fear, 3 On Your Side consulted with health care professionals to find out if any of those claims hold water.

One of the biggest allegations involved whether wearing face masks could lead to carbon dioxide poisoning.

Family medicine physician Dr. Emily Landrum said surgeons wear masks often throughout their work shifts, as well as those who have the flu -- if they're hospitalized -- for prolonged periods with no problems.

"As long as your mask is breathable, I think that risk of carbon dioxide poisoning, for example, is very low," Landrum said.

The conspiracy theory, which has circulated across various social media platforms, has no scientific evidence to back up its claim.

Other posts suggest neither cloth masks nor surgical ones protect against coronavirus infection at all.

"If two parties in a scenario are wearing a mask, then that reduces your risk of getting coronavirus down to less than two percent as opposed to if one person is wearing a mask and the other person is not, then that risk is much higher, depending on which individual has coronavirus, sometimes up to 70 percent or higher," Landrum said.

State Health Officer Dr. Thomas Dobbs agrees with that sentiment.

"One of the most important reasons [to wear a mask] is because people don't know they're infectious. Even if they have no symptoms, they're totally contaminating the air around them."

Landrum also took issue with the myth that you can keep re-infecting yourself by keeping a mask on.

"Just because you have the mask on and it's keeping those viral particles from going out into the air, that doesn't necessarily mean that you're just breathing those back in and increasing your chance of becoming sicker or re-infecting yourself, per se."

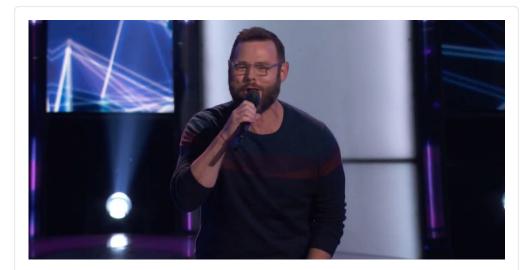
Health experts like Landrum agree you should follow proper procedures when taking the mask off, however, and wash your hands afterward.

It also helps to wear it correctly.

During Tuesday's briefing with Gov. Tate Reeves, Dobbs demonstrated the wrong way to wear a face mask,

First Alert Forecast: hit, miss storms continue Wednesday

A stalled front will be the focal point for scattered showers, storms at times through Wednesday and Thursday. In its wake - turning summer-like with heat and humidity for the Memorial Day weekend. By **Patrick Ellis**



Miss. Pastor Todd Tilghman wins 'NBC's The Voice'
"It's just been one miracle after the other."
By Summer Tadlock

Pandemic snacking helps pack on the 'Quarantine 15'



Published May 19, 2020 at 7:55 PM

Coast mother returns home after battling COVID-19 for 60 days



Published May 19, 2020 at 7:04 PM

with his nose poking out of the top.

"I see a lot of this. I'm sure y'all do, too, so please cover your mouth and your nose," Dobbs said. "It's really an easy thing to do. I just wish people would take it seriously."

Copyright 2020 WLBT. All rights reserved.



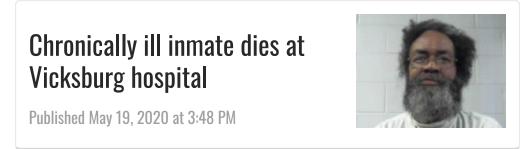
Gov. Reeves responds after reading name 'Harry Azcrac' during graduation shout-outs Published May 19, 2020 at 6:59 PM

 Tate Reeves
 @latereeves

 @latereeves
 /'s submitter has a bright future as a Simpson's writer

 minutes we'll be honoring more graduates on Facebu Maybe even Ben—the pride of the Dover family.
 r.com/yokoboji/statu...

 □* ~ □ \$\overline{\sigma_s}\$ \$\overline{\sigma_governor of Mississippi is reading the names of graduates. / reone submitted the name "Harry Azcrac" \$\overline{\overline{\sigma_governor of Mississippi is reading the names of graduates. / reone submitted the name "Harry Azcrac" \$\overline{\overline{\sigma_governor of Mississippi is reading the names of graduates. / reone submitted the name "Harry Azcrac" \$\overline{\overline{\sigma_governor of Mississippi is reading the names of graduates. / reone submitted the name "Harry Azcrac" \$\overline{\sigma_governor of Mississippi is reading the names of graduates. / reone submitted the name "Harry Azcrac" \$\overline{\sigma_governor of Mississippi is reading the names of graduates. / reone submitted the name "Harry Azcrac" \$\overline{\sigma_governor of Mississippi is reading the names of graduates. / reone submitted the name "Harry Azcrac" \$\overline{\sigma_governor of Mississippi is reading the name submitted the name "Harry Azcrac" \$\overline{\sigma_governor of Mississippi is reading the name submitted the name "Harry Azcrac" \$\overline{\sigma_governor of Mississippi is reading the name submitted the name "Harry Azcrac" \$\overline{\sigma_governor of Mississippi is reading the name submitted the



Sponsored Stories



Bank manager sentenced for stealing \$315K from elderly customer



As coronavirus rolls on, Republicans hit 'pause' on new aid

Recommended by Sutbrain

Sponsored Content

We Recommend

- Man turns himself in after ex-girlfriend shot multiple times at Byram hotel
- City of Jackson will use symptom tracker for COVID-19 hotspots
- Body found inside wrecked car in creek
- AP Exclusive: Docs show top White House officials buried CDC report



715 South Jefferson StreetWLBT FCC PUBLIC FILE✓IJackson, MS 39201PUBLICFILE@WLBT.COM(601)948-3333601-960-4436CONTACT USWLBT EEO REPORTVNEWS@WLBT.COM ►WLBT CLOSED CAPTIONINGWLBT CLOSED CAPTIONINGPRIVACY POLICYFERMS OF SERVICEV